

THE DYING KLAN

A dispatch from Macon says that Dixie Klan No. 33, chartered there in 1912, and at one time one of the largest in the National organization, announces the surrender of its charter. "Internal dissension" is given as the cause. Thus passes a Klan that altogether had initiated more than 3,000 members in its dozen years of useless life.

Everywhere in the South the Klan is disintegrating, nowhere more rapidly and surely than in Alabama. Birmingham was once one of the great Klan strongholds. Now it is said the order is shot to pieces there. The fee-payers have withdrawn. The Klan as an organization will never again be a serious political force in Alabama, even though "klan-mindedness" is still a factor to be reckoned with.

"Klan-mindedness," however, while still a factor, cannot be highly effective without organization and passionate leadership. Once the spiders weave their webs over klavern doors and desks and magic passwords no longer are spoken, the psychology that made the Klan possible, while still with us, will be impotent.

But the evil that the dying Klan did will live long after its final demise.

Flogging Cases Are Reversed In Court Ruling

Eugene Doss, Lee Clayton Win New Trials With Appeal Decision

Calloway Case Up

Judge James Rice Gives Dissenting Opinion

Eugene Doss and Lee A. Clayton convicted in Blount County of kidnaping and sentenced to imprisonment for from eight to ten years each in connection with the kidnaping of Calloway, will get new trials, under decisions rendered yesterday by the Court of Appeals of Alabama, reversing judgments of the trial court and remanding both cases.

Under the holding of a majority of the court that the Grand Jury which returned indictments against the two was improperly organized and that the indictments were defective, Doss and Clayton cannot again be tried on these same indictments but must be reindicted by another Grand Jury.

Attorney General McCall who with Thomas E. Knight, Jr., and Major John J. Haynes, assistant attorneys general, and W. G. Raines solicitor, directed the prosecution of Doss and Clayton when asked what the future course of action was in error in giving the general charge of his office would be, if any, with regard to these cases and application for rehearing will be made, adding, "we will fight the cases through to the end."

In the cases of Doss all members of the Court of Appeals were agreed upon reversal. Judge James Rice dissented, however, in the Clayton case.

Improperly Organized.

It was held in both cases by Presiding Judge C. R. Bricken and Judge W. H. Samford, composing a majority of the court, that the Grand Jury was not properly organized, in that the names of the personnel which composed it were not drawn from a hat or box, as provided by law. Before the case went to trial a plea in abatement was entered by defense counsel, alleging the Grand Jury returning the indictment was not drawn and impaneled as required by law. It was alleged the cards bearing the name of jurors in attendance that week were not placed in a hat or box by the circuit judge, and indiscriminately drawn therefrom, but were all stacked up on one stack and that the first 18 names on the stack were "selected" by the judge presiding, as the Grand Jury that returned the indictments in the case. The state demurred to this plea and the demurrer was sustained. This, a majority of the court held, was error.

It also was held that there was no evidence tending to connect the defendant with the commission of the offense charged, except that of accomplices. It was held further that under the evidence the offense committed did not constitute the crime of kidnaping. Another ground of reversal, was the ruling that the indictment was defective.

The court was divided as to the ruling that in view of the evidence the offense committed did not constitute kidnaping. Judge Samford ruled this was a question for the jury to decide. Judge Rice held that under the evidence, the offense did constitute kidnaping.

On Clayton Case.

In the Clayton case, in which the opinion of the court was written by Judge Samford, it was held also that the Grand Jury was improperly drawn and that the indictment was defective because it failed to charge an intent on the part of the accused to confine Calloway secretly. Other grounds for reversal were that on account of the lame condition of the public mind in connection with the trial of Doss, motion of the defendant, Clayton, for continuance, should have been granted, that there was no evidence in the case tending to show any preconceived arrangement on the part of the Tarrant City organization of the Ku Klux Klan as to the whipping of Calloway and testimony as to the organization of the Ku Klux Klan in Alabama was, therefore, inadmissible; that the defendant ought to have been permitted to show that witnesses for the state were interested or account of a promise of immunity for turning state's evidence.

Judge Rice, in the Doss case, stated in his concurring opinion that he concurred in the sole reason that the trial court was in error in giving the general charge or the state. Doss was convicted, he stated, on testimony of the two state witnesses, Hughes and Tidwell, and it was not denied that Tidwell was an accomplice. It should have been left to the jury to decide whether Hughes was an accomplice, he ruled. He disagreed with the holding of a majority of the court that the Grand Jury was improperly organized and the indictment defective.

Dissenting Opinion

Dissenting from the holding of the majority in the Clayton case, Judge Rice stated that in his opinion every element of the offense of kidnaping as it is defined by statute, was shown by the legal evidence offered by the state. There is no question in this case, he states, as to a lack of testimony corroborating that of the accomplices.

Doss and Clayton, alleged members of the Tarrant City, Ala., organization of the Ku Klux Klan, received the most severe penalties of a number of defendants arrested following the flogging of Calloway. Others accused pleaded guilty to lesser offenses in the same connection and were fined or given hard labor sentences.

According to evidence in the case as set out in opinion of the Court of Appeals in the case of Clayton, a religious meeting was being held at Antioch Church in Blount County, about ten miles from Oneonta. Klan members were invited and attended in considerable numbers, though the meeting was open and not confined to klan members. Members attending were in full regalia. At this meeting speeches were made setting forth the intention of the klan to break up bootlegging and other forms of law violation.

Calloway Entered

Evidence was to the effect that while his meeting was in progress Calloway came to the locality and entered the church grounds, having a bottle of whiskey in his possession at the time, which was partly consumed, and that he was under the influence of liquor. The evidence tended to show, it is stated further, that Calloway's behavior was such as to disturb the meeting and that when the meeting was about concluded, six masked and hooded figures forcibly took Calloway, put him in an automobile, carried him through Oneonta and into Jefferson County in the direction of Birmingham. There they took him from the car and into the woods, forced him to cut his arms about a sapling, and whipped him. Then released him, they ordered him to run, which he did. Calloway made his way to the house of a farmer where he spent the night, and the next day returned to Oneonta, where he reported the whipping to which he had been subjected, to the authorities.

Klu Klux Klan - 1929

General.

STAR

Portsmouth Va.

JUL 20 1929

WHY THE KLAN LEFT WASHINGTON

(Petersburg Progress Index)

Official announcement by the heads of the Ku Klux Klan that national headquarters of the Klan are being removed from Washington back to Atlanta is said by the Washington correspondent of The New York World to be due chiefly to the recent incident of the entertainment by Mrs. Hoover of the wife of Congressman De Priest, colored, of Illinois. The World correspondent says Klan officials at national headquarters were flabbergasted by the incident and that immediately the sentiment in favor of removing headquarters back to the former capital of Kluckery began to manifest itself. The Ku Klux Klan fought Gov. Smith on the ground that he was a Catholic and that colored men and women were invited to social functions of The Tammany Hall Society. How greatly the Klan contributed to the election of Mr. Hoover is not known, probably never will be known, but it is a fact that he received approximately the solid Klan vote in every State.

Southern Democrats and this includes Southern newspapers, have had comparatively little to say concerning the De Priest incident. That is, that which has been said has been little in comparison with what was said by those Southern Democrats who broke away last fall and supported Mr. Hoover against Gov. Smith. Kluckery undoubtedly played a considerable part in this defection. Col. Horace Mann, in charge of the republican campaign in the South, played up for all it was worth Gov. Smith's and Tammany's alleged advocacy of social equality as between the two races. These Southern men and women who left the Democratic party to vote for Hoover are the ones who have been making the most noise concerning the recent White House incident. It is natural they should feel they have been betrayed. Regular Democrats in the South probably have felt that their disaffected brethren who went off after strange gods last November were doing and would continue to do ample justice to the subject without any aid from the old regulars.

As for The Progress-Index, it has never become excited over the incident, which we have

regarded as unfortunate chiefly because of the effect it would have upon De Priest himself, who is playing up his wife's White House invitation for all it is worth. Governor Dan Moody, of Texas, has refused to indorse the joint resolution adopted by the legislature of that State in so far as it is to be constructed as a reflection upon Mrs. Hoover. Like many Southern people, Governor Moody seems to think the incident was unavoidable.

Ku Klux Klan - 1929

Ku Klux Klan To Transfer Headquarters to Atlanta, Washington Report Says

Change Expected Soon.

Removal Said Here To Be Under Way—Roswell Road Building Undergoing Remodeling.

BY GLADSTONE WILLIAMS, Special Staff Correspondent.

Washington, April 24.—Through sources close to high officials of the Ku Klux Klan it was learned here tonight that sufficient authority exists for the organization to transfer its national headquarters from Washington back to Atlanta, which was the center of national operations until a few years ago.

The entire force of the national headquarters here will be established in Atlanta after July 1, it was stated. Preliminary plans to the end already have been taken and by the late given even the office of Dr. Hiram Evans, president of the body, again will be located in Atlanta, according to local informants.

Just what prompted the decision to return to Atlanta which has been more of regional headquarters during the interim, could not be learned here tonight, but officials of the organization are understood to have first considered the move some months back.

At one time the Klan maintained an elaborate organization structure in Washington. Dr. Evans himself established in one of the most exclusive sections of the city, while offices were centered in a prominent downtown office building. Recently, however, it is understood that a decentralization of forces was ordered and now comes the information that national headquarters will be transferred back to Atlanta.

KU KLUX BUILDING IS BEING REMODELED.

Removal of the national Ku Klux Klan headquarters from Washington, D. C. to Atlanta Wednesday was reported here to be under way. Preliminary arrangements for caring for the major national activities of the Klan, consisting of the administrative offices, printing department and regalia manufacturing department, have been started at the organization's building on Roswell road at Buckhead.

The three-story brick building owned by the Klan at Buckhead is being practically entirely reconstructed and will have its capacity increased by approximately one-fifth to provide space for the national offices and other operations of the Klan headquarters soon to be located in the structure, it was stated Wednesday.

Re-establishment of Atlanta, which was the center of Klan activity up to a few years ago, when administration offices were moved to Washington, as headquarters for the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan is expected to be effected in a short time, according to reports here which assert that Imperial Wizard H. W. Evans, head of the secret order and formerly of Atlanta, again will take up his residence in this city.

Remodeling of the Buckhead Klan building already is well under way, with A. F. N. Everett as architect for the developments. According to the general plans for reconstruction of the building, all of the floors and practically all of the walls of the structure will be torn out and replaced by concrete, making the structure fireproof. The building, which now extends through from Roswell road to Peachtree road, will be widened from eight to ten feet by utilization of the present alley alongside the building.

Plan of Building.

On the first floor of the structure will be located the printing plant of the Klan, which now occupies a temporary structure; two offices of the printing department, and the sales office of the Klan. The second floor of the reconstructed building will be devoted to the mailing department and the sewing department of the regalia manufacturing plant. The major changes will be made on the third floor, which will be used for the new national offices to be moved here. In addition to the offices it will be fitted with shower baths and a grill.

In local activities of the Klan it was reported Wednesday that a reorganization committee headed by Paul Etheridge, counsel of the Klan, and others, have been revising the Klan functions here. Dr. Sam Green, great titan of the Fulton county province, is reported to be acting grand dragon for the state of Georgia. Nathan Bedford Forrest is the official grand dragon of the Ku Klux Klan.

FORMER KLAN PALACE DAMAGED BY FLAMES

\$10,000 Loss Is Suffered by Peachtree Road Building, Now Apartment Hotel.

The former Ku Klux Klan palace at 2699 Peachtree road, now operated as an apartment hotel by H. Wilensky, was severely damaged last Saturday night by fire. The fire, which broke out at about 11 o'clock, burned for more than two hours before firemen put it under control. Damage was estimated at \$10,000.

The fire was discovered by Charles Stroud, president of the first floor shortly before 10 o'clock. The blaze originated in the boiler room.

Two sick children, Charles and Alden Broward, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Broward, were removed from the third story of the building by Annie Hicks, colored nursemaid, while the parents were away from the residence.

The blaze did severe damage to all three floors of the 36-room apartment hotel, while firemen also had to exercise vigilance to keep the flying sparks from attacking the residence of Judge Shepard Bryan, of 2702 Peachtree road, but across the street.

The building was in the process of remodeling and was not filled to capacity with tenants. H. Wilensky, well-known Atlanta leather dealer, purchased the home from the Ku Klux Klan after it had been used as a palace and a residence for Colonel V. J. Simmons, one-time imperial grand dragon of the order.

Several pieces of valuable antique furniture, the property of Mr. and Mrs. Broward, were lost in the blaze. Fire and water damage extended throughout all three stories of the building.

KU KLUX KLAN GIVES PROGRAM

Georgia Organization Advocates Revision of Taxes and the Adoption of New State Constitution.

By JOHN W. HAMMOND
ATLANTA, April 20.—Beginning today, a special folder is being sent broadcast over the state, to members of the organization, announced the 1929 Program of the Knights of the Ku Klux Klan.

The organization, according to information from one of the high state officials, purposes devoting its efforts in 1929 to aiding in the direction of a conservative, constructive improvement development work in the state of a non-political nature and to that end, it is stated, is making an especial study and will carry on a campaign of information on education, good roads, health improvement, revision of the tax system, law enforcement and the drafting of a new state constitution.

It is stated that the organization is not fostering or backing any particular idea on any one of these subjects, but that its purpose is to offer its aid and influence in the furtherance of whatever plan presents hope

for the greatest accomplishment in the general best interest of the state as a whole.

The folder carries on its cover page: "1929 Program. Realm of Georgia. Knights of the Ku Klux Klan."

The program is presented in these folders, which are to be circulated among members of the various local organizations, as follows:

"Education—The Klan will sponsor in every county in the state a highgrade, nine months consolidated school. This will insure equal educational opportunities to every boy and girl living in the state of Georgia. We favor a scientific, advanced educational system from the primary schools through the university.

"Good Roads—A very necessary incident to the state system of education, as well as to transportation throughout the state, is a system of twelve months (per year) permanent highways. We will support with the influence of our organization, the most feasible plan introduced in the coming legislature that will insure the people of Georgia such roads at the earliest possible date.

"Health—We favor a state health system, making adequate provision for modern, scientific methods for safeguarding the health of the people.

"Revision of Taxes—We favor a fair and just tax system. We believe that the present unjust uniform ad valorem system should be abolished, since this system burdens our real estate with far more than its share of the taxes. We will support any feasible bill introduced in coming legislature which will place a fair share of the burden upon stocks, bonds and other invisible hidden wealth. Georgia should have a tax system which will spread the burden equally, on all classes of property.

"Law Enforcement—The Klan will support any legislation which will assist in the enforcement of our laws and prevent a recurrence of the crime wave that has been sweeping over our country. We favor the removal from office, either by ballot or impeachment, of any officer of law who fails to carry out his oath of office in the enforcement of the laws now on our statutes.

"New Constitution—The Klan favors the appointment of a committee of representative citizens to draft a new constitution for this state, same to be submitted to the legislature and, if approved, to be ratified by the people."

Wizard Scores Klan Move To Assist Bolters

Manifesto Of Alabama Ku Klux Frowned On By Evans

'Not In Car' Leaves He To Fights

ATLANTA, Dec. 27.—(P)—Dr. Hiram W. Evans, Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, said here today that the Klan as an organization is not in politics and would not take part in the Alabama campaign. He made this statement after he read the report from Birmingham that the Alabama Klan had denounced the Alabama Democratic Executive Committee for barring as candidates those who failed to support the Democratic National ticket last year. Dr. Evans said the report from Birmingham was news to him.

"The report is entirely news to me," Dr. Evans said. "The statement may have come from a Klan official but the Klan as an organization itself is not in politics and would not take part in the Alabama campaign. The Klan as an organization aligned itself against Gov. Smith last year because it believed his defeat necessary for the preservation of Americanism, but the Klan as an organization takes no part in local campaigns such as that in Alabama."

Called Official Message
BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 27.—(P)—The Ku Klux Klan, was injected into active State politics by the publication here today of what was purported to be an official proclamation to Klansmen urging them to resist discipline for bolting the Democratic ticket in 1928 because of the nomination of Alfred E. Smith.

The proclamation praised United States Senator J. Thomas Heflin seeking re-election and Hugh A. Locke, gubernatorial candidate, who were barred from the forthcoming Democratic primary by the State Executive Committee for support they gave President Hoover, as "noble clean, patriotic and intelligent citizens

who are being discriminated against because they exercised their political freedom."

Although barred from the Democratic primary, both Heflin and Locke have said they will be independent candidates in the November general election and in the opinion of political observers here, it was to their support in that election that Alabama Klansmen were rallied.

Evans Comments

The proclamation as published drew no comment from James Esdale, Birmingham attorney and Grand Dragon of the Klan in Alabama while at Atlanta, Dr. Hiram W. Evans, Imperial Wizard of the organization said the Klan as an organization is not in politics and would not take a part in the Alabama campaign.

The resolution adopted by the Executive Committee barring Heflin and Locke as candidates in the primary was scathingly denounced by the proclamation as unconstitutional and advised the electorate that they would not be bound to support the Democratic nominees. The only restriction the committee placed upon bolting voters for their return to the party, was that they bind themselves to such a course.

Esdale, however, endorsed Evans's statement.

"I thoroughly concur with what the Imperial Wizard said, in regard to politics," he said. "I have always governed the Alabama Klan in accordance with politics he laid down. The Klan is not a political or religious organization; it is a patriotic organization."

Forecast Made

The forecast was made that "an outraged public sentiment" would compel the committee to meet again and rescind its action.

"The action of the State 'Autocratic Executive Committee is manifestly so unfair, so un-Democratic, so un-American so obedient to Tammany Hall and to the Roman Catholic Church," the proclamation said, "that it is being hotly condemned by every Democratic Senator and Congressman in Washington and by every intelligent and fair-minded citizen in the Nation.

"Klansmen: don't hesitate to express yourself about this matter in every place and on every occasion. Let your courage impart itself to others that they too may share your militant resistance to this new species of political intolerance. Stand by your guns; be men, not cowards. Your Grand Dragon is determined to stand by you Klansmen and to fight.

"And—just to whisper you a secret—we intend to lick our enemies until they can't stand up."

THE Ku Klux Klan, we learn, is moving its headquarters back from Washington to Atlanta, where

it will undertake a campaign for the repeal of the Fifteenth Amendment, the one which in theory enfranchises the Negro. The Klan was about extinct

when the Democrats nominated Al Smith and gave it a new lease on life. Since the Hoover landslide—which very few were sure the Klan leaders

attributed largely to their influence—it has pretended to be very close to the administration, but

this pretence was punctured when Mrs. de Priest was entertained at the White House, since nothing

could be more alien to Klan principles unless, perhaps, Mr. Hoover were to announce that he has

been converted to Catholicism. The Klan, like any other commercial enterprise, must have a talking-point, something to sell to its members, and accordingly it falls back on the Fifteenth Amendment.

Repeal is, of course, impossible; this amendment is like the Eighteenth in that it can neither be repealed nor, at present, enforced, and probably no

one is better aware of this than the heads of the K. K. K. But necessity knows no logic; and there

may still be some benighted people in this country who can be persuaded to give up ten dollars each,

from time to time, in the hope that the Negro can be restored to the status of a serf. After all, this drive is not much sillier than that of The National Republic, which asked similar contributions for the

purpose of destroying the Bolshevik menace in America.

The New York City
7-17-29

Ku Klux Klan - 1929

Indiana

INDIANA AND THE KLAN

From the Charleston News and Courier

In the State of Indiana, where the latter-day Ku Klux Klan was more powerful in politics and had a much more numerous membership than in any other of the forty-eight American States, the former Grand Dragon has petitioned that he be allowed to withdraw from the role of practicing attorney. The Attorney General was about to ask for his disbarment. *Chambers* The Attorney General has also asked for the disbarment of a former Titan of the Klan. *Chambers* Both these lawyers were recently paroled from the Leavenworth Penitentiary, where they were serving a term for theft or conspiracy to steal. *Chambers* One was a member of "an interstate ring engaged in stealing automobiles."

The history of the modern Ku Klux Klan in the State of Indiana has been one of the filthiest records of recent years. Nevertheless, a United States Senator of Indiana, representative of Klan opinion in that state, had the effrontery in the Senate last year to deliver an abusive attack upon men and institutions opposed by the Klan. Another Republican senator, Mr. "Jim" Watson, who holds his seat by reason of his concession to Klan sentiment, is the leader of the Republican Party in the Senate.

Ku Klux Klan - 1929

Missouri

K. K. K. WHERE IT BELONGED

Call 12-6-39
A declaration that the Klan had membership within the Colorado penitentiary composed of guards and prisoners, throws interesting light on the outbreak there which cost thirteen lives and almost destroyed the plant. The Klan is the supreme Pharisee of American history with its pretensions of patriotism and morals. A Klan group with convict membership is a fitting autobiography to mark the close of operations.

Kansas City, Mo.
Pretensions of goodness indicate a lack of clear thinking. Men who do good are too busy to brag. It was power, not service that the Klan wanted. Long after Texas and other states south and north had driven it out, Colorado remained its stronghold. This awful cataclysm in its penitentiary brought about by setting at naught decrees by the courts, should open that state's eyes to the danger of trusting braggarts instead of the law and its officers.